

ATTORNEY DOCKET NO. 040894-5954

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re Application of:

Michio TADA, et al.

Application No.: 10/657,130

Filed: September 9, 2003

For: **SHEET TRANSPORTING APPARATUS AND SHEET PROCESSING
APPARATUS USING THE SAME**

Group Art Unit: 3653

Confirmation No.: 9219

Commissioner for Patents
MAIL STOP PATENT APPLICATION

INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT UNDER 37 C.F.R. § 1.97(b)

Pursuant to 37 C.F.R. §§ 1.56 and 1.97(b), Applicant brings to the attention of the Examiner the documents listed on the attached PTO-1449. This Information Disclosure Statement is being filed before the mailing date of a first Office Action on the merits for the above-referenced application. A copy of each listed document is attached.

The following are listed on the accompanying PTO-1449 and are in a language other than English.

a. Japanese Unexamined Patent Publication No. JP-A-7-206225. The relevance of this document is discussed at pages 2-3 of the specification of the present application.

b. Japanese Unexamined Patent Publication No. JP-A-2003-081490. The relevance of this document is discussed at page 4 of the specification of the present application. English translations of the non-English documents are enclosed.

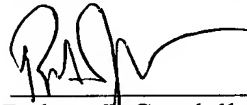
This submission does not represent that a search has been made or that no better art exists and does not constitute an admission that the listed document is material or constitutes "prior art."

If it should be determined that the listed document does not constitute "prior art" under United States law, Applicants reserve the right to present to the Office the relevant facts and law regarding the appropriate status of such document. Applicants further reserve the right to take appropriate action to establish the patentability of the disclosed invention over the listed document, should the document be applied against the claims of the present application.

If there is any fee due in connection with the filing of this Statement, please charge the fee to our Deposit Account No. 50-0310.

Respectfully submitted,

MORGAN, LEWIS & BOCKIUS LLP



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Date: February 2, 2004

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**INFORMATION DISCLOSURE CITATION**

(Use several sheets if necessary)

PTO Form 1449

Attorney Docket No.
040894-5954Serial No.
UnassignedApplicants
Michio TADA, et al.Filing Date
September 9, 2003Group
Unassigned**U.S. PATENT DOCUMENTS**

*Examiner Initial	Document Number	Date	Name	Class	Sub Class	Filing Date

FOREIGN PATENT DOCUMENTS

Document Number	Date	Country	Class	Sub Class	Translation	
					YES	NO
JP-A-7-206225	August 8, 1995	Japan			Abstract	
JP-A-2003-081490	March 19, 2003				Abstract	

OTHER DOCUMENTS (Including Author, Title, Date, Pertinent Pages, Etc.)

Examiner

Date Considered

Examiner: Initial if reference considered, whether or not citation is in conformance with MPEP 609; draw line through citation if not in conformance and not considered. Include copy of this form with next communication to applicant.